



CALPEEK

CALIFORNIA POLITICAL WEEK

P.O. BOX 1468, BEVERLY HILLS, CA 90213 (310) 659-0205
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VOL. XVIII
No. 15

APRIL 8, 1996

POLITICAL WAR OF WORDS CONTINUES IN ORANGE COUNTY

Editor's note: Even before Orange Co. Assemblyman Scott Baugh and others were indicted on charges of voter fraud and campaign reporting violations (in connection with last year's 67th AD recall of Doris Allen), there was PR effort in place aimed at bashing Orange Co. DA Mike Capizzi and indirectly trying to hurt his investigation. Here's our analysis & commentary...

...The latest anti-Capizzi charge comes from GOP activist Howard Garber, who says Capizzi asked him to sign some unsigned petitions in 1972 (as circulator) to reinstate the death penalty. Garber admits that signing the petitions was a violation of law, but he says he signed them anyway --- right in front of Capizzi, who was then a deputy DA. Capizzi denies this. The incident dates back 24 years --- so that's really stretching...

...The Garber news conference (4/1) took place at U.S. Rep. Dana Rohrabacher's district office. In fact, Rohrabacher is the *pointman* in this PR battle with the DA. The other person who has been photographed with Rohrabacher (at least twice) is Michael Schroeder, who is vice chair of the CA Republican Party. But Schroeder tells CALPEEK his involvement is strictly as a interested GOP activist and not as a CRP official, thus he's not trying to drag the CRP into this war with Capizzi...

...As for the PR war, on the surface it would seem that Rohrabacher & Co. are making the most points, but not everyone agrees, noting that Capizzi is a careful guy who won't mix it up with Rohrabacher for two reasons: 1) Sources close to Capizzi think Rohrabacher's tactics will backfire in the long run; 2) Capizzi doesn't want to anger the O.C. GOP establishment any more than necessary. At this point, Rohrabacher seems to be the only vocal Capizzi basher. Senate GOP Leader Rob Hurtt and other members of the so-called *Junta* have been keeping a low profile...

...What should Capizzi do to combat Rohrabacher's spin? Some say the DA should explain why he's bringing criminal charges against Baugh, when ordinarily such reporting violations are turned over to the FPPC for heavy fines. And others say a group of pro-Capizzi supporters should form a "truth squad" to counter Rohrabacher's statements. In this way Capizzi doesn't have to get directly involved in the spin wars. In fact, this may happen...

...FYI: Sources who have been following this case (especially the stuff about Laurie Campbell's role as a "decoy Democrat" to drain Demo votes away from Linda Moulton Patterson) note that in the early 1980s there was a similar case when former Sen. John Doolittle(R) defeated State Sen. Ray Johnson(I). Reapportionment put both into the same district and Doolittle's team recruited a Demo to run --- to drain Demo votes that might have gone to Johnson. There's an interesting connection between the Doolittle case and the 67th AD probe involving Laurie Campbell. More next week...

CAMPAIGN '96: PRIMARY WINNERS & LOSERS.

Editor's note: And now for one of your favorite post-election columns, CALPEEK's *Winners & Losers*. There's nothing objective about this, so sit back and enjoy --- or cry...

■ ***The Big Screw-Up of '95*** - Calif.'s Mar. 26th early presidential primary, with a 38.8% voter turnout...

■ ***The Big Winner*** - There can be no doubt: Consumer Attorneys of Calif. (aka *trial lawyers*) and their top consultants, Morris & Carrick and Richie Ross. They knocked off all 3 tort reform measures --- Props. 200, 201 & 202...

■ ***Big Win on a Small Budget*** - On a very limited budget, the NO on 199 campaign defeated the Mobile-

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home Rent Control Initiative backed by the wealthy mobilehome park owners. A nice win for consultant Steve Hopcraft...

■ ***The Caucus with Clout*** - Another big winner in the primary was the Demo Latino Caucus. They won their top two targeted races (39th AD and 9th AD)...

■ ***Ambush Award*** - To the CA Republican Party and the CA Indep. Business PAC for their sneak attack win in defeating rookie GOP Assemblyman Brian Setencich of Fresno. The ambush was orchestrated by consultant Joe Justin of the Justin Co...

■ ***The Big Loser*** - The Alliance to Revitalize Calif. The YES on 200, 201 & 202 campaign wasn't well focused and the TV ads lacked sparkle...

■ ***Best TV Spot*** - The "Corporate Wolves" spot by Morris & Carrick for NO on 201 & 202. Although there weren't that many TV ads to pick from in this primary, the NO on 201 & 202 ad would have made the "A" list in any election...

■ ***Best Radio Spot*** - The NO on 199 ad, produced by Hopcraft Communications and featuring a real person, Patty Bishop, whose story about being evicted from a mobilehome park mashed the YES side...

■ ***Newspaper Editorial with Clout*** - L.A. Dep. DA John Lynch had better get on his knees and thank the L.A. Times for their very strong endorsement of his candidacy. That's all Lynch really had going for him. Lynch now faces DA Gil Garcetti in November...

■ ***Newspaper Editorial Screw-Up Award*** - To the Oakland Tribune. On election day, most newspapers run their entire list of endorsements (like a slate) on their editorial page. According to the Tribune, a production worker apparently took the electronic endorsement file from the Trib's sister publication (Alameda Star Times) and accidentally put it on the Trib's editorial page. Ooops. Who got screwed because of this mistake? Oakland Vice Mayor Dezie Woods-Jones (16th AD) and Assemblyman Bob Campbell (9th SD). Who got helped? Don Perata and Assemblywoman Barbara Lee --- and they both won...

■ ***Hardest Hit Mailers*** - Lots of competition here,

but the winners are: Demo side - ***"He Tried To Kill Me"*** - an attack on 51st AD candidate Mark Dymally by winning candidate Ed Vincent (consultant: Rick Taylor); GOP side - ***"The People of the State of Calif. vs. Kirk Lewis Uhler - Convicted"*** - an attack on 4th AD candidate Kirk Uhler by winning candidate Rico Oller (consultant: Steve Presson)...

■ ***That Touch of Tuck*** - Leave it to CDP political operative Bob Mulholland to hire 4 youngsters along the U.S./Mexico border - each holding a separate sign which when read together said: ***"Wilson - Hired - Illegal - Maid"*** - just as the national news media & the Dole presidential bus (with Gov. Pete Wilson) drove by on their way to Dole's photo op event on the border. Dick Tuck would be proud. Stay tuned...

CA INITIATIVE UPDATE: CALPEEK INSIDERS SEE 12 BALLOT MEASURES FACING VOTERS IN NOVEMBER.

Editor's note: Initiative sponsors are urged to turn in their petitions to various county registrars by April 19th to insure a spot on the Nov. 5th ballot. The certification for all November ballot measures is June 27th. Here's our update on what's happening out in the field with about 3 dozen initiatives still in circulation...

● ***Already On Ballot for Nov. 5th*** - 1) Attorney-Client Fee Arrangements sponsored by Consumer Attorneys of CA; and 2) Campaign Contributions & Spending Limits sponsored by Californians for Political Reform...

● ***Being Counted*** - 1) CCRI (probably will qualify); 2) Vouchers sponsored by Bay C.A.R.E. - petitions were turned in April 1st, but sources don't think this constitutional amendment will qualify...

● ***On the Street/Still on Target*** - The following appear to be in good shape and should qualify for the Nov. 5 ballot: 1) Jarvis/Gann III; 2) Retirement Savings & Consumer Protection Act (another initiative by Consumer Attorneys of CA & attorney Bill Lerach); 3) Uninsured Motorists/Drunk Drivers sponsored by Insurance Comm. Chuck Quackenbush; 4) Minimum Wage Increase sponsored by CA Labor Federation; and 5) Frivolous Lawsuits sponsored by Tom Proulx of the Alliance to Revitalize Calif. (to counter #2)...

● ***On The Street/Close Calls*** - The following init-

atives appear somewhat *iffy* --- and insiders aren't totally sure if these will make it: **6) Felonies Involving Firearms** - aka "10-20-Life" by sponsor Mike Reynolds of Fresno; **7) Top Income Tax Brackets** sponsored by Lenny Goldberg; **8) Gambling. Legalization** - aka The Gaming Control Act sponsored by developer Mark Bragg of Palm Springs; **9) School Spending. Limits on Administration** - aka "95-5" sponsored by Children's Rights 2000; **10) Health Care. Regulation. Consumer Protection** - statute sponsored by the CA Nurses Assn. and Foundation for Taxpayer & Consumer Rights (Harvey Rosenfield); **11) Spending Limits & Campaign Contributions** - sponsored by CA Public Interest Research Group(CALPIRG)...

...FYI: It's not realistic to think that all those initiatives in the *close call* category will make it. For example, sources say the gaming proposal by Bragg (to permit slots in Palm Springs) will be very close. Bragg has raised and spent \$700,000 in this do or die effort to make the November ballot. Those working the streets for Bragg are pulling out all the stops. P.S. Women For will sponsor a discussion of the various health care proposals now in circulation with Dr. Jennifer Reifel, 7:30 p.m., April 16, University Synagogue in West L.A. ☎657-7411. Stay tuned...

CAMPAIGN '96: CITY - COUNTY ELECTION RESULTS

Editor's note: Here's a brief update on city & county ballot measures and other races which appeared on the Mar. 26th primary ballot...

☒ **San Francisco Co.** - Both Measures "A" (\$157 million bond to expand Moscone Convention Center) and "B" (to build a new China Basin ballpark for the Giants) won easily. Consultants John Whitehurst and Solem & Assoc. did "A", while consultant Jack Davis was in charge of "B"...

☒ **City of San Diego** - Mayor Susan Golding got 78% of the vote against 4 underfunded unknowns. Also reelected were Councilmembers Christine Kehoe and Judy McCarty...

☒ **City of Stockton** - Controversial Measure "Q" to allow the Delta Park Casino into town was overwhelmingly shot down --- 33% YES vs. 67% NO. A big win for Townsend et al., APCO Associates and consultant Don Parsons --- and also the Mi Wuk Indians...

☒ **Calaveras Co.** - The Board of Supes's scheme to take over the existing PG&E power plant and start up a county run MUD(municipal utility district) was rejected by a 74% to 26% margin. Another win for Townsend et al....

☒ **San Bernardino Co.** - The mega-buck landfill battle over Railcycle ended up with Railcycle winning. NO on Measure "L" was a winner by a 53% to 47% margin - meaning the Railcycle landfill project can go forward. Big win for Winner, Wagner & Mandabach and consultant Jeff Adler...

☒ **City of Ventura** - Slow growers put Measure "S" on the ballot to stop the city from giving tax breaks to mall & shopping center developers. It was shot down by voters -35% YES to 65% NO. A nice win for Marathon Communications...

☒ **City of Bakersfield** - Incumbent Mayor Robert Price was reelected with 85% of the vote...

LINCOLN CLUB TO HEAR FLAT TAX DISCUSSION.

The Downtown L.A. Lincoln Club will hear a presentation from consultant Gene Raper of Russo, Marsh + Raper on the Calif. Flat Tax Initiative, 12 noon, April 16, Hotel InterContinental. For info & RSVPs, ☎ Sheila McNichols (818)249-4205...

CAMPAIGN '96: COUNTY BOARD OF SUPES RACES.

Editor's note: Here's a brief update on the results of Mar. 26th primary in County Board of Supervisor races...

...CALPEEK's preliminary survey indicates that at least 9 incumbent county supervisors who were seeking re-election on Mar. 26th didn't make it. Here's the list of those who lost: Gayle Bishop(Contra Costa), Francie Sullivan(Shasta), Robert Gracey(Inyo), Jess Lopez (Madera), Frank McMichael & Seiji Sugawara(Mendocino), Bruce Gabriault(Merced) and Christine Foster (Nevada). We'll update next week if necessary...

...*Incumbent winners* included Ken Peterson(Kern); Naomi Schwartz & Tim Staffel(Santa Barbara); Ed Simas & Robert Cabral(San Joaquin); Yvonne Burke & Mike Antonovich(L.A.); Susan Lacey & John Flynn (Ventura); Dianne Jacob & Pam Slater(San Diego);

Bob Buster(Riverside); Mike Nevin, Ruben Barrales & Mary Griffin(San Mateo)...

...**Incumbents in runoff:** Marsha Turoci(San Berdu), who got but 32%, faces Apple Valley Councilwoman Kathy Davis(49.999% at last count); and David Blakely (San Luis Obispo) got 40% and faces Mike Ryan...

...**Hot OPEN seat runoffs:** 1) L.A. Co. battle between Don Knabe(40%) vs. Gordana Swanson(26%) - Knabe remains the favorite and had it not been for Long Beach Vice Mayor Doug Drummon's 20%, Knabe might have won w/o a runoff; 2) Santa Clara Co. runoff between Cupertino Mayor Barbara Koppel and Palo Alto Mayor Joe Simitian - this runoff has got GOP (Koppel) vs. Demo (Simitian) written all over it; and 3) Orange Co. has two(2) open seat runoffs: District #1 Charles V. Smith vs. Mark Leyes - Leyes is a buddy of GOP Assembly Speaker Curt Pringle; and District #2 features GOP Assemblyman Mickey Conroy vs. Dep. DA Todd Spitzer. Stay tuned...

CALPEEK's INFOBAHN: POLITICAL SHORT TAKES.

Editor's note: Here are a few political items worth noting...

◆ ***Has Dole Pulled the Plug on Calif.?*** - Well maybe. Call Dole's Calif. HQ and see for yourself. ☎(818)552-2950. If you don't want to bother, we'll tell you. There's a recording which asks callers to phone (202)414-6400. For the uninformed, area code 202 is in DC. As the Demo Coordinated Campaign sees it, it's an indication Dole has already pulled the plug on Calif....

◆ ***Candidate Search in 30th AD*** - Assembly Demos are in the midst of trying to find a candidate to run in November against Robert Prenter, the GOP unknown who with \$200-Gs in CA Indep. Business PAC money ambushed GOP Assemblyman Brian Setencich of Fresno. There are some Assembly Demos who are pointing the finger of blame at Demo Leader Richard Katz for not recruiting a Demo to run in the 30th A.D., a district which has a Demo registration advantage. FYI: If the Demos recruit an individual who is registered with a political party (such as a Demo, Reform, Green, AIP, etc.) that person would have to run as a write-in candidate. But if the person recruited is a true indepen-

dent (decline-to-state), they can get their name on the ballot by getting 4,154 valid signatures. The time frame to collect signatures is from May 20 to Sept. 2nd...

◆ ***Bonds Bounce Back*** - When Prop. 192 (seismic retrofit bonds) won 60% to 40% and Prop. 203 (educational facilities bonds) won by a 62% vs. 38% margin, insiders did a *double-take* because it's been a long time since a statewide bond has won. Even in conservative **Orange Co.**, both bond measures won (#192 got 57% and #203 got 55%). What's it mean? More confidence in CA's economy and voters are now willing to spend to rebuild the State's infrastructure...

CDP CHAIR TORRES AT LEXINGTON GROUP APR. 16. CA Demo Party Chair Art Torres will address members of the CA Lexington Group, 12 noon, April 16, Jade West Restaurant, Century City. For info & RSVPs ☎Paulette Surjue-Lindo (310)312-4000 ext. 4634...

CORO TO HOST 21st ANNUAL AWARDS DINNER. The Bd. of Directors of Coro So. Calif. will host its 21st annual Public Affairs Awards Dinner, 5 p.m. to 9 p.m., April 25, Biltmore Hotel, L.A. Those being honored include Anita L. DeFranz of the Amateur Athletic Foundation; sports attorney Leigh Steinberg; and the L.A. Dodgers. For info & tickets ☎(310) 996-1188...

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